



## RATES OF ADVERTISING.

Regular rates of advertising, \$1 per square first insertion, and 50 cents each subsequent insertion.  
Special contracts will be made for all advertisements for four insertions or over.  
Transient advertisements always payable quarterly in advance.  
Marriage and obituary notices, over one square, charged for at half regular rates.  
All local news 10 cents a line for each insertion.  
No notices inserted for less than fifty cents.

## ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST.

Moody is going to Leadville.

Buffalo girls feel proud when they can make use of seventy-five hair pins at once.  
Many a man of honor, says the New York Commercial, may be a fearful liar and not know it.

Miss Lettie Gray, a girl of New York city, is astonishing people in her state with her marvelous whistling.  
An exchange says that Mary Anderson is notably deficient in her kissing, and the Albany Times finds a reason in the fact that Mary wasn't brought up to the ministry.

Bankruptcy is not alone known to Americans. Englishmen used to get square with the world, when they owe \$100,000 and have no assets but six nightshirts.

"The whole universe," says Rev. T. DeWitt Talmage, "is not ashamed to take care of one little daisy. The stars watch over it, the sun warms it, the winds cool it, and the clouds draw water for it."

Over 43 per cent. of the woolen machinery in the United States is located in New England. The number of sets of machinery equals 8,431, of which Connecticut has 669, New Hampshire 565, Rhode Island 469, Maine 331, and Vermont 175.

An arctic expedition is now being fitted out under the supervision of Captain H. W. Howgate, and is expected to sail from Washington about the middle of May. Any contributions of reading matter will be thankfully received and acknowledged by Captain Howgate if sent to him at Washington.

King Alfonso has sent to the Historical Society of Missouri a photograph of himself, beautifully framed in Spanish enamel of gold and silver on steel. The picture bears the King's autograph, and is a token of approval of the society's intended celebration of the anniversary of the first Mississippi exploration.

A sugar mill to weigh 300,000 pounds, including a heavy and superior made 300-horse power engine, will, it is said be soon erected in Louisiana. It will rank among the largest establishments of the kind in the world. Its cost of machinery will enable it to gain on the productions of ordinary mills thirty per cent. and more.

King Oskia of Brass, Africa, was induced three years ago to give up his idols to Bishop Crowther, who sent them to England. Since then he has been a regular attendant at church; but it was not until lately that he promised to give up his numerous wives and be baptized. During his late illness the idol priests begged him to relent, but he refused to do so.

A company has been organized under the laws of New York, to be known as "The Mexican Telegraph Company," having for its object the establishment of telegraphic communication with Mexico, Central and South America, and ultimately with New Zealand, Australia, China and Japan. The project was laid before M. de Lesseps when he was in that city, and by him was warmly endorsed.

Mr. Beecher comes to the front with an explanation of the refusal of the Kentucky house of representatives to permit him to lecture after being invited to do so by the senate. He says he was twice invited to speak in Frankfort, once by the senate and once by a private gentleman, which he declined to do, because of prior engagements not admitting of it. The house, therefore, says the Brooklyn divine, "refused to lend their hall to a speech which I twice declined to make. I think I have the advantage."

John Gorman visited the St. Louis House of the Good Shepherd, picked out the best-looking woman among the inmates, told her that he owned a large and well-stocked farm, and proposed marriage. She asked for a few days to think the matter over, but he said, "now or never," as he meant to take a wife home that afternoon. So she consented, and went out to buy some clothes. She met her affianced husband at the street, while shopping, and did not recognize him; but he introduced himself anew, and hurried her to a clergyman, who performed the ceremony.

There are four firms that monopolize the manufacture of quinine in the whole United States. They seem to be not contented with the enormous wealth they have acquired, but complain against the removal of the duty on quinine. Their idea of what is well for the country appears to be that on the things which are used in manufacturing quinine there should be no tax or duty, but that on quinine itself there should be a duty. Perhaps of all medicinal agents quinine is the most important; to thousands and thousands it is at times an essential agent of health and life. The laws of the country should be such as to make a necessity like this as easily obtainable as possible by all—the poor as well as the rich. No monopoly should be allowed to stand in the way of its being made more accessible to millions of the poor in our land who need it.

## WONDERS OF THE FISH WORLD.

Prof. Brooks on the Oyster—Lobster Facts—The Fishermen Feasting.

At a meeting of the Fish Culture Association, Prof. W. K. Brooks of Baltimore gave some highly interesting information concerning the oyster. Experiments were made with the aid of powerful microscopes. The Professor began his operations of hatching in his watch crystal. After impregnating the eggs in moderately warm water the young oysters began to swim in about two hours time. The shells commenced to grow immediately, the oysters continuing to swim after the little shells had formed. There were many rapid changes of formation during the fermentation. Some were so rapid that they gave only fifteen seconds of time in which to draw their diagrams. At times they were flat and pear shaped, with inner circles, then round, with hairy appendages, again assuming a form like the sole of a shoe, rapidly changing to a tadpole formation with a long tail. They were so diminutive that 500,000 could swim around in the watch crystal. A single oyster yields from 1,000,000 to 50,000,000 oysters, according to size. A fair average is probably about 9,000,000—the Professor could not be positive as to a million or so. The oyster sexually matures in one year, when about the size of a silver half dollar. When the shells first formed 125,000,000 would only fill a cubic inch of space.

In answer to a question why oysters were not healthy except in the "r" months, the Professor said they soon fermented when in the milky state, or full of eggs, and were then unwholesome. If eaten when taken fresh from the water they were not unhealthy food.

Mr. George Chappel gave important and startling information on the lobster fisheries. If proper restrictions are not made at once, and penalties enforced for infringements of the law, the traffic in lobsters would soon cease. They are run down so fine and small now that they have nearly lost their flavor. Fifty pounds of live lobsters hardly furnishes five pounds of meat.

Prof. Atwater read an exhaustive paper on the nutritive qualities of fish, and Mr. George S. Page elucidated the spread and advantages of black bass. After unanimously electing Robert B. Roosevelt, President; George S. Page, Vice-President; E. G. Blackford, Treasurer; Barnett Phillips, Corresponding Secretary, and James Annin, Jr., Recording Secretary, the association adjourned until next year.

## Fidelity Rewarded.

"Is there any vacant place in this bank which I could fill?" was the inquiry of a boy, as with a glowing cheek he stood before the president.  
"There is none," was the reply. "Were you told that you might obtain a situation here? Who recommended you?"  
"No one recommended me," was the answer; "I only thought I would see."

There was a straightforwardness in the manner, an honest determination in the countenance of the lad which pleased the man of business, and induced him to continue the conversation. He said: "You must have friends who could aid you in a situation; have you advised with them?"

The quick flash of the deep blue eyes was quenched in the overtaking wave of sadness, as he said, though half musingly: "My mother said it would be useless to try without friends;" then, recollecting himself, he apologized for the interruption, and was about to withdraw, when the gentleman detained him, by asking him why he did not stay at school another year or two, and then enter into business life.

"I have no time," was the instant reply, "but I study at home, and keep up with the other boys."

"Then you have a place already?" said his interrogator. "Why did you leave it?"  
"I have not left it," answered the boy, quietly.  
"Yes, but you wish to leave it. What is the matter?"

For an instant the child hesitated; then he replied with half reluctant frankness: "I must do more for my mother."

Brave words! talisman of success anywhere, everywhere. They sank into the heart of the listener, recalling the radiant past. Grasping the hand of the astonished child he said with a quivering voice: "My good boy, what is your name? You shall fill the first vacancy that occurs in the bank. If in the meantime you need a friend, come to me. But now give me your confidence. Why do you wish to do more for your mother?"

Tears filled his eyes as he replied: "My father is dead, my brothers and sisters are dead, and my mother and I are left alone to help each other, but she is not strong, and I want to take care of her. It will please her, sir, that you have been so kind, and I am much obliged to you."

## The Fashions.

Flowers are again used in the hair.

A great deal of gold lace is used on spring millinery.  
Very small cuffs ornament the sleeves of new costumes.

Plain skirts will continue in vogue during the season.  
Exquisitely embroidered crowns are seen on imported bonnets.

Tiny gilt garden implements are a novel decoration for rustic hats.  
The yellows and purples now so popular are very trying to most complexions.

Cloth redingotes, open both back and front to show a gay lining, are in great demand.

Novelties in color and material are more conspicuous in new dresses than change of form.

Children's Hamburg collars to be stylish should be made of very open patterns of embroidery.

Street basques and jackets show a severe simplicity in style, while those for the house are as dainty as fancy dictates.

Dark red judiciously mingled with the other colors of the costume will be much worn during the coming summer.

Handsome black shoulder capes and dolmans are trimmed with netted fringe over half a yard in depth, thickly beaded, and are lined with scarlet satin.

For lawn and calico dresses the simple round overskirt is still used, caught gracefully up to the waist on one side, to display a panel of trimming underneath.

Pleated and belted waists of several descriptions will be used again for summer dresses of percale, lawn, coteline and gingham, and those for seaside and country will have parasols to match. They will be made up with round walking skirts and short over-dresses.

Breakfast caps are universally worn by fashionable ladies, and several new designs are now exhibited. A very jaunty cap has the crown made of white muslinette de soie trimmed with a double border of side-pleated Malines lace falling over the hair and a band of gray Persian ribbon between the two, forming a graceful bow upon the top of the head.

## Not Much of a Loss.

A young lady went to a drug store, Monday, located not a hundred miles from the market house, and had a prescription made up.

"How much?" inquired the lady.  
"Fifty cents," said the clerk.

"But I have only forty-five cents with me," replied the customer; "can't you let me have it for that?"

"No ma'am," said the clerk, but you can pay me the five cents when you come in again."

"But suppose I were to die?" said the lady solemnly.

"Well, it wouldn't be a very great loss," was the smiling response.

And immediately the innocent clerk gathered round the indignant flash on the lady's face, that he had been misunderstood, and before he could assure her that it was the little balance and not her that would be no great loss, she had bounced out at a go-as-you-please gait, and was beyond the sound of his voice.—Cleveland Sentinel.

It is estimated that during 1880 the iron mills in this country will be increased 800,000 tons. The Bethlehem mill intends to enlarge its capacity by 90,000 tons, the Northern Chicago Rolling Mills by 90,000, and the Pennsylvania Steel Company by 140,000. New open-hearth furnaces are being started up in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, Ohio and Vermont, and new blast furnaces in considerable numbers are ready, or almost ready, for operation in Pennsylvania, Virginia, Illinois and Delaware. To illustrate how these enlargements in the iron business will aid the cause of labor, it may be mentioned that 800 more hands will be needed by one Pennsylvania company as soon as it has completed some additions to its mills.

The following mills in various sections of the United States have made arrangements to manufacture steel rails from foreign blooms: Springfield, Illinois, for the Wabash Railway Company; the Joliet Ironworks, for an Eastern firm; Klamath, Allegheny City, for an Eastern firm, and the Reading for their own roads. There are, it is said, at present 6,500 tons blooms afloat, chiefly for Klamath. Upwards of 25,000 tons additional are under contract for shipment, but it is said to be questionable if that amount will be sent forward.

A western minister told the trustees of his church that he must have his money, as his family was suffering. "Money!" said one of his trustees, "you preach for money. I thought you preached for the good of souls." The minister replied: "I can't eat souls, and if I could, it would take a thousand such as yours to make a meal."

## Muskrat Catching.

Muskrat trapping is an industry of much local importance in southwest New Jersey.

The time occupied in capturing these animals extends from October to March, embracing a period of about five months. They are trapped principally, if not entirely, for their hides, although their flesh is very highly esteemed by the trapping fraternity.

The muskrat generally inhabits the banks of ditches and creeks. They pick out a portion of the bank overgrown with elms, and also helping to support their burrow. The rat, after selecting a suitable site for his home, begins operations in this way: Starting at the water's edge he borrows in a winding manner, when he abruptly starts in a downward direction to a distance of two or three feet, where he begins to excavate and forms a basin, in the middle of which he raises a mound four or five feet in circumference. It is here the rats rest during the day. After finishing this cavern they return to the water's edge by a different route, thereby providing three means of escape—two at the water's edge and one inland.

These burrows, in their uniform construction, afford a striking illustration of about architecture. The muskrats inhabit a single burrow often number as high as twenty-five or thirty, and the size of a burrow depends entirely on the number of inmates. His ratship's diet consists of roots and grass, although he holds corn and potatoes in high esteem; but it is not always that he can tickle his palate with the last-named articles. They are scrupulously clean; in fact, proverbially so in this section. And it is no uncommon thing on a moonlight night for persons traveling in the vicinity of ditches and canals to see a rat sitting on the bank busily engaged in washing an older root or an ear of corn. They are, however, very retiring as regards visitors, but if a person should, by chance or otherwise, place himself in such a position as to be between the rat and his hole he would not hesitate on an attack. And, by way of illustrating his ratship's pugnacious disposition, I will relate the experience of a gentleman residing in Salem. On a recent evening he was passing along one of our rural thoroughfares, which was bordered on each side by a ditch. It being a rather late hour of the evening he was hurrying on at a rapid pace, when he was suddenly set upon by what he believed to be a dog. After several futile efforts to drive the animal away he took himself to a club, and after a sharp struggle, in which he was twice bitten, he succeeded in killing the animal, which proved to be a large muskrat. The mode of trapping these animals is as diversified as it is ingenious. The manner most in vogue is by the common steel traps. Besides this there is what is known as the box-trap, a contrivance about five feet long by eight inches in height and breadth, with doors at each end, working so that when the luckless rat once enters he cannot open the door from the inside. As many as a half dozen rats are sometimes caught at once in this style of trap. "Snoods" and snares, resembling those employed in trapping birds, are also much used. As muskrats are very wary animals great care has to be taken in trapping them, and no amount of trap setting by the uninitiated would result in the capture of a rat. Great care has also to be taken to insure the rats being caught alive, where that by the leg, for if he should be caught in this manner, he would immediately turn and gnaw his leg off. This is no uncommon occurrence. The rat, after being killed, is carefully skinned and his hide stretched and dried. It is then ready for market. The size of a skin taken from a full-grown rat about seventeen inches long by ten inches wide, and the price obtained for it from local dealers ten and fifteen cents, according to size, color, etc., although a few years ago they brought as high as thirty-five and forty cents. The number of rats captured in one season is very large. One trapper had caught 450 rats this season up to the 1st of January. The big tides of 1876, 1877 and 1878 have had the effect of somewhat retarding this industry by drowning a large number of rats and driving the others further inland.—Philadelphia Record.

The Concordia (Kansas) Enterprise tells of a spring of water from which sugar is made. It says: We had a call last Thursday from Mr. H. T. Mills, now living on his new farm, northwest of Burr Oak. Mr. Mills produced for our inspection a lump of sugar, which he had made from water caught as it ran from a living spring on his place. The process of manufacture was similar to that by which maple sugar is produced from the sap of the maple tree, namely, by "boiling it down." This experiment was made last Sunday, and the amount of sugar "tried out" from three gallons of pure spring water was one and a half pounds. Mr. Mills had his attention called to the peculiar quality of the water of this spring by the fact that his cattle refused to drink it, and then by personal "sampling." Its sweetness inducing him to try the experiment of sugar-making from such singular material, with the result stated. We tasted the sugar—which has almost the identical appearance of maple—and were struck with its similarity of taste. There is enough difference, however, to convince one that it is not maple, but that it is an excellent quality of sugar.

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## Time's Panorama.

It needs no magic glass or mystic mutoscope, to read the prophesy of coming years;

No sage interpreter, to solve the utterings of latter time, the patriarch of seers. It all the world's a stage, and life's a drama, whose actors come and go, but come no more.

There is the future but a panorama. It seems to be, but seen in thought before. Let the bright play flash on, but do not anger in contemplation of its changing hues.

Follow instead where time's prophetic finger points, and behold the picture that he views. A decade hence—say, two, it does not matter—Here is the self-same stage, the same old play;

New actors counterfeited the hollow clatter. Worn out long since by actors passed away. Here vices loom mockingly on virtue's plain;

There youth and beauty plight their troth together; Here sorrow sits, and there broods cruel pain; There, shadow chills the friendship of fair weather.

Sincerity still shows the seeds of hate; Candor and truth go cautiously in mask; Honesty plods; corruption rides in state; Labor still bends, complaining to his task:

"Stay!" you exclaim in accents discontented, "Is not your catalogue complete at last? This future, so minutely represented, Is but the present, tempered with the past?"

Aye, so it is! Youth dreams of bright success! Manhood begins to doubt, perhaps to fear; While age his weakness flatters, consoles; And so the world rolls on, year after year.

Year after year beholds the same endeavor Of busy men of wealth or fame, and sees How history repeats itself forever. And fortune still from her forever frown, One life there is worth living, and its beauty Transcends all chances that hopes fulfilled can bring;

He who does trustfully his honest duty, Alone is happy, he be seer or king. —Forsyth's Progress.

## HER SECRET.

"I certainly do owe you everything.

It's a profanation to mention money in connection with that sort of indebtedness; but, Lavinia, I shall try to discharge part of it in another way."

Miss Vin smiled and blushed, plucking at one of the roses climbing all about the window, with lowered head and very great embarrassment.

Sidney, however, saw nothing of this; his thoughts were projected into the future; and, although his gaze rested dreamily on the things about him, his fancy had taken a wild flight, and was busy with very different objects. And there was a silence, Lavinia frightened.

Just then Carrie appeared, with her straw hat and the strawberry-basket in her hand, looking a great deal like a figure out of a picture.

"I want you, Sidney."

And, with his honest smile, away went Sidney to stain his hands with pickling berries.

Lavinia looked after them with a faded glance; just the shadow of something—not vexation, but a gleam of sadness and disappointment; and she went in and was rather quiet for a few minutes, bustling about the room, and finally over to the glass, where she took a stolen peep at her own comely features. She saw a woman of thirty, still pretty, and even handsome.

Well, there was certainly no disparity of ages, for he was quite thirty also—some months more.